

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): A process for preparing a molded paper vessel, comprising draw-molding under heat and pressure, a molding base paper having the following conditions (1) to (4):

- (1) a tensile strength (JIS-P 8113) of at least 2.0 kN/m,
- (2) an elongation at break (JIS-P 8113) of at least 1.5%,
- (3) a critical compression stress, defined by the following formula, in the range of 1 to 10 MPa:

$$\text{Critical compression stress} = A/B$$

wherein A represents the compression strength determined by JIS-P 8126, and B represents the area of loaded part of the test piece in the determination of the compression strength, and

- (4) an amount of compression deformation, caused by applying compression stress of 20 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup> in thickness direction, of at least 10%, so as to form a vessel which satisfies the following formula (5):

$$0.15 \leq H/(S1)^{1/2} \quad (5)$$

wherein S1 represents the bottom area of the vessel and H represents the height thereof.

Claim 18 (New): The process according to claim 17, wherein said molding base paper comprises a mechanical pulp selected from the group consisting of ground wood pulp, refiner ground wood pulp and thermomechanical pulp.

Claim 19 (New): The process according to claim 18, wherein said molding base paper comprises a mechanical pulp in an amount of 20 to 80%.

Claim 20 (New): The process according to claim 17, wherein said molding base paper further comprises a synthetic resin layer on at least one surface thereof.

Claim 21 (New): A process for preparing a molded paper vessel, comprising draw-molding a molding base paper under heat and pressure, so as to form a molded paper vessel which satisfies the following formula (1):

$$0.15 \leq N/(S1)^{1/2} \quad (1)$$

wherein S1 represents the bottom area of the vessel and H represents the height thereof,

said molding base paper comprising a high density layer having a density of 0.7 to 0.9 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a low density layer having a density of lower than 0.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and said molding base paper having a basis weight of 100 to 500 g/cm<sup>2</sup> and a density of 0.40 to 0.70 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

Claim 22 (New): The process of claim 21, wherein said low density paper is mainly comprised of mechanical pulp.

Claim 23 (New): The process of claim 22, wherein said mechanical pulp is thermomechanical pulp.

Claim 24 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein said molding base paper further comprises a synthetic resin layer on at least one surface thereof.